

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 QUITO 04436 300814Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 COME-00 SIL-01 LAB-04 CEA-01
STR-07 TRSE-00 OIC-02 AGR-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00
FRB-03 H-01 INR-10 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05
PA-01 CTME-00 AID-05 SS-15 ITC-01 ICA-11 SP-02
SOE-02 OMB-01 DOE-15 /115 W
-----103075 011201Z/12

R 292059Z JUN 78
FM AMEMBASSY QUITO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8648

CONFIDENTIAL QUITO 4436

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, EC
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR INFORMATION ON LABOR STANDARDS

REF: (A) STATE 136706; (B) QUITO A-37

1. ECUADOR HAS NO LEGISLATION PROVIDING SPECIAL LABOR CIRCUMSTANCES FOR EXPORT INDUSTRIES. ECUADOR EXPORTS FEW FINISHED PRODUCTS TO THE US. ITS SMALL POTENTIAL IS REDUCED EVEN FURTHER BY ECUADOR'S GSP EXCLUSION.
2. SPECIFICALLY, SLAVE AND FORCED LABOR ARE ILLEGAL. THOUGH WORKER/EMPLOYER RELATIONSHIPS INVOLVING HIGHLAND AGRICULTURAL INDIANS MAY DIFFER FROM THE LAW, THIS IS IN NO WAY RELATED TO EXPORTS.
3. LEGAL MINIMUM AGE FOR LABOR IS 14. ALTHOUGH THIS IS WIDELY VIOLATED IN AGRICULTURE AND NON-UNIONIZED ACTIVITY (PARTICULARLY CONSTRUCTION), IT IS WELL CONTROLLED IN INDUSTRIES LARGE ENOUGH TO HAVE EXPORT POTENTIAL.
4. THE LAW CONCERNING WORKER SAFETY IS GENERAL AND POORLY ENFORCED. ALTHOUGH THERE HAS BEEN SOME WORK ON INDUSTRIAL

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PAGE 02 QUITO 04436 300814Z

STANDARDS, NOTHING HAS BEEN SPECIFICALLY CODIFIED.

5. THERE ARE NO DIFFERENTIAL LABOR REGULATIONS OR STANDARDS (EITHER IN LAW OR PRACTICE) FOR FREE TRADE ZONES, INDUSTRIAL EXPORT INDUSTRIES OR TARGET IMPORT SUBSTITUTION INDUSTRIES. ECUADOR HAS NO FREE TRADE ZONES.

6. ALL INFORMATION PROVIDED ABOVE APPLIES TO THE ENTIRE
ECONOMY. THERE IS NO DIFFERENTIATION FOR EXPORT INDUSTRIES.
CORR

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decapton Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation History:
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